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Correspondence from practical farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. The most active and intelligent portion of the community. Entered as second-class matter.

### Profit in Mushrooms.

[From article prepared by Prof. G. E. Stone for the July crop report of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.]

When mushrooms are grown for the market on a commercial basis, it is essential that all of the conditions be made as desirable as possible for their growth and development, in order that a large and profitable crop may be obtained. It is necessary that a uniform degree of temperature be maintained, and that the crops be secluded from drafts and sunshine. Total darkness, however, is not absolutely necessary, since mushrooms grow well in diffuse light. Uniform temperature and moisture conditions are more likely to exist in dark places, and it is for this reason that mushrooms are grown in the dark. Those who grow mushrooms commercially make use of cellars, barns, sheds, tunnels and space under greenhouse benches, etc., as well as in specially constructed mushroom houses. It is desirable, however, to have a tolerably dry foundation for a mushroom bed. The conditions of a cellar can be made suitable for mushroom growing, especially for amateurs who wish to go into the business on a small scale. By partitioning off a portion of the cellar and closing up the windows, more constant and uniform conditions can be obtained. Space under greenhouse benches can be made especially suited to mushroom culture, and many growers take advantage of this space for their propagation.

### SOIL AND CONDITIONS.

The most suitable soil conditions for mushroom culture consists in supplying the bed with plenty of good horse manure, mixed with loam or decomposed soil, mixing about one-fourth or one-fifth loam or decomposed soil with manure. Either fresh or partially rotted manure can be used, and the should repeatedly be well worked over, composted and watered frequently, taking care that it does not burn. After it has been well worked over and composted various times, and the heat is not likely to rise above 130° F., it should be thoroughly incorporated with one-fourth to one-fifth decomposed loam or soil. It can remain in this condition until ready for use. The beds are usually made up ten to fourteen inches deep, and in these are placed the soil and manure for growing them. The bottom of the bed should be supplied with six inches of fresh manure, well tamped down. It should be covered with the prepared manure and loam mentioned above, adding about two inches at a time, and compacting the same. If it shows a tendency to heat too much, incorporate a little loam with it. One or two layers two inches deep of the prepared loam and manure can be put on each day until the required depth is obtained. Straw or some mulching material is then put over the top of the bed until ready to spawn. This answers the purpose of catching the condensed steam and keeping the surface from getting too wet. After the temperature of the beds has reached about 90° to 95° F., the straw should be removed and the bed spawned, although some growers prefer a temperature of about 80° F. This is accomplished by breaking the bricks into pieces and planting the pieces in rows in the bed. The rows should be about one foot apart, and the pieces of spawn inserted every six or eight inches and covered up superficially with the soil. When spawning is completed, compact the surface of the bed all over. After this is accomplished, the bed can again be covered with straw, and in the course of eight or nine days the straw is removed and the bed covered with two inches of good, mellow loam. Care should be taken that the temperature of the bed does not exceed 80° F., after covering, as in that case one is likely to lose the crop.

### TEMPERATURE AND MOISTURE.

Before the mushrooms have made their appearance through the loam, a temperature of from 65 to 75° F. may be obtained; but after the mushrooms have commenced to develop, the temperature should be kept about 55° F. If the temperature goes above 55° F., some means should be employed to lower it; and if it goes below 55° F., it should be raised either by covering the beds or by applying artificial heat. Beds should never be allowed to become too dry, and must be kept tolerably moist, either by employing matting or old carpets before the mushrooms appear, or by sprinkling with water.

### HOUSES.

Where special attention is given to commercial mushroom growing, houses are constructed which are adapted to the growth of this crop. The style of wooden houses shown represent types that have been utilized for some time by various commercial growers of mushrooms. The houses usu-

ally set two or three feet below the level of the ground, and dirt is piled up on either side to the level of the plates which support the roof. These types of houses have usually been built of wood, and the roof is covered with hay or marsh grass. The beds are either built on the ground or slightly raised. In the latter case they are provided with board sides, thus leaving room for a path, as shown. Some improvement has been made in recent years in the style of houses for mushroom culture. One of the principal objections to the wooden houses shown is that such are very likely to rot out quickly, and it is expensive to renew them. An experienced mushroom grower informed me that such a house would only last about three years. On account of the dampness arising from the heat of the manure, and the unfavorable situation of material constructed of wood, rotting occurs very quickly. The conditions in a mushroom house are exceedingly favorable for timber-destroying fungi, thus causing premature decay. The second house shown is a more recent model, used by Wyman Bros., market gardeners, Arlington, Mass. It is an even-span house, fifteen feet wide and about four feet high at the sides. The length of such a house is, of course immaterial. The side walls are built of cement, and there is a truss roof constructed out of wood and corrugated iron. The corrugated iron roof and cement sides furnish construction material which will not readily decay; and, while a house of this description may cost more at the outset, it is far cheaper in the end for a commercial grower who intends to follow that line of work. Cellar benches can be constructed singly or in series, one or more above the ground bed. A single bed is shown in the illustration. The construction of cellar beds would depend materially upon the space and the conditions available.

### GATHERING THE CROP.

It is necessary, with a crop like mushrooms, as it is with many others, to go over the beds each day and gather the mature specimens. These are gathered in trays, care being taken not to have them become soiled in handling. In picking mushrooms it is recommended that they should not be cut off at the base, but gently twisted and removed from the soil. When it is necessary to cut, as is sometimes the case when they come up in large numbers, it is recommended that the butts be subsequently removed, and the holes filled with soil, in order to prevent decay. Mushrooms can be kept in a cool, dark place for two or three days after picking with little detriment.

### PRICE OF MUSHROOMS.

Mushrooms, like other crops, are usually assorted into grades which bring different prices. The price of mushrooms usually varies from one season to another, and also during the same season. A No. 1 product will bring \$1 per pound during certain seasons, while at other seasons they will sell from twenty-five cents to fifty cents per pound. During the past winter mushrooms were as low as twenty-five cents per pound at one time in the Boston market.

### Rotation for New England.

M. B. Windsor, Ct., asks what would be a good rotation for New England soils to build them into profitable fertility. He has tried alfalfa with no success until of late he has inoculated the soil; he has now some thirty alfalfa. He is in the Connecticut Valley and sells milk. Joseph E. Wing replies through Breeder's Gazette:

Selling milk sells from the soil quite a good deal of its fertility. However, the price received for the milk enables the farmer to buy what he has sold away and more with it. New England soils are mostly of granitic origin. They have then sufficient potash; usually, they lack phosphorus and nitrogen. Nitrogen you can win from the air, after you get a start. Phosphorus you may need to buy.

Among the various legumes that trap nitrogen and build soils some thrive in alkaline or sweet soils, rich in lime. Alfalfa is one of these. Others are less particular. Alfalfa clover and some of the vetches thrive where the soil is deficient in lime and somewhat acid. The best of the legumes want dry sweet soil. If alfalfa does not always thrive on that land I would try lime as a corrector of acidity. It is not in itself a fertilizer, it is a truth burner up of fertility, yet it may enable alfalfa to grow and that brings other blessings in its wake. Professor Dugger found in Alabama that the hairy vetch made from 104 to 180 pounds of nitrogen to the acre. That is building soils rapidly. Suppose the vetches are out and fed to cows; the roots remaining in the soil have a great deal of nitrogen in them and by carefully saving and returning the manure made by feeding the tops a good part of that is returned. Red clover should be made to thrive; it is a soil builder.

Perhaps the system of management in New England is as much as anything responsible for the deterioration of soils. Often the cows run on pasture, a long narrow rocky lane connecting that with the barn yard. They spent a good part of their time in the lane and yard. Most of the fertility they might return to the soil is thus wasted. In France, where soil-building is an accomplished art, cows are soiled in their stalls or tethered on the meadows. There is not a particle of loss of fertility there.

I should suggest a rotation of silage corn, in which were sown vetches at last cultivation, to be disked in spring for oats, the oats sown three weeks to four, with 250 pounds good fertilizer rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, red clover or alfalfa with the oats, the oats out for hay when in bloom, the clover not pastured the first year, but permitted to develop, unless it promised to make seed, which would not be advisable to

allow, cutting it the next year for hay, covering the stubble with manure and putting again into silage corn. That makes a three-year rotation and will surely tend to steadily increase in fertility if the manures are carefully conserved.

In that stable keep at all times acidulated rock phosphate and use it as an absorbent and deodorizer. It is cheap when bought at wholesale and greatly enriches the manure, which may be more thinly spread with the manure spreader and yet good results follow.

### Preserving Fence Posts.

The well-known methods of preserving posts and wood which are partly embedded in the earth are only effective when both the charring and tarring are applied. Should the posts only be charred, the charcoal formation on the surface would set as an absorber of the moisture, and if anything, only hasten the decay. By apply-

ing circumstances can be produced if necessary. There are thousands of other cases like these all over the country.—T. D. Harman, Pittsburg, Pa.

### Mr. Clark's New Hay Crop.

The season has been a backward one for most crops. The grass, as a whole, is light; mine is better than last year. The first crop last year on 145-8 acres was fifty-five tons 729 pounds; this year on 11½ acres there were sixty tons 175 pounds, nearly 5½ tons per acre. I have found thus far that potash will make the grass stand up whether wet or dry.

My seven-eighths-acre field is the best this year that I have ever seen. Many others who have adopted my method have heretofore secured eight tons of dry hay to the acre in one crop, but until this year my best hay had been 7½ tons. This seven-eighths-acre field has produced at one seeding, 14½

nine o'clock the hay is opened and well shaken up, and in one hour turned over by hand. If it is a good day we commence to cart it; sometimes two loads before noon. In this way considerable anxiety is removed from our minds in case of unannounced showers. I do not allow my dry hay to remain exposed to the sun any longer than I can help. This point I consider important as any in the hay harvest. The present crop has made its growth with a comparatively small amount of sunshine and necessarily there is a very great shrinkage in curing. I do not think the present bulky crop will amount to any greater feeding value than crops of other years. When grass grows slowly under plenty of sunshine, it has more "sugar," as they used to say when I was a boy. The scythe then would gum up so we had to shave it off with a knife before whetting. That we called a most excellent sign of good hay.

JOHN FISK.

Middlesex County, Mass.

### Official Holstein Records.

During the ten days from June 24 to July 4, official records of forty-four Holstein cows have been received and approved. Forty-two made seven-day records. Eight full-age cows averaged, age 6 years 10 months 20 days; days from calving to commencement of record forty-six; milk 473.8 pounds; fat 15.223 pounds. Six four-year-olds averaged, age 4 years 4 months 8 days; days from calving to commencement of record thirty-eight; milk 383.3 pounds; fat 12.192 pounds. Eleven three-year-olds averaged, age 3 years 4 months 8 days; days from calving to commencement of record forty-five; milk 365.8 pounds; fat 12.688 pounds. Eighteen two-year-olds averaged, age 2 years 2 months 9 days; days from calving to commencement of record forty-nine; milk 321.7 pounds; fat 10.150 pounds.

Eight cows made fourteen-day records; two cows made twenty-one day records, three made thirty-day records and one a forty-two day record. The latter was 3 years 5 months and 10 days old at time of calving. She produced 3177.3 pounds milk containing 108.124 pounds fat. Her best seven-day record was 573.2 pounds milk containing 19.461 pounds fat, and for thirty consecutive days she produced 2362.8 pounds milk containing 78.269 pounds fat. A heifer 2 years 7 months 11 days old at date of calving produced in thirty days 1730 pounds milk containing 62.470 pounds fat. The average quality of her milk was 3.61 per cent. fat. Another heifer under 3 years old at date of calving produced 1612.8 pounds milk in thirty days containing 57.970 pounds fat. The quality of her milk was 3.59 per cent. fat. A third heifer dropping her first calf at 2 years, 3 days old, produced in twenty-one days 923.2 pounds milk containing 33.734 pounds fat. The average quality of her milk was 3.66 per cent. fat.

Considerable interest is being awakened to make records after eight months from calving in order to show the staying ability of the breed. Already one such record has been received. A heifer 2 years 9 months 8 days old at time of calving commenced a record 235 days thereafter. She produced in seven consecutive days 260.6 pounds milk containing 8.794 pounds fat.

### The Beef-Cattle Business.

It requires millions of cattle each year to supply the meat markets of the world. And the United States is one of the largest cattle-producing countries.

In the twenty years between 1880 and 1900, the average annual production of beef cattle in this country amounted to over thirty-two million head.

It would require one million stock cars to transport these cattle, if thirty-two of these million cars were made up into a solid train, it would reach eight thousand miles, or one-third the distance around the earth. While all the States produce beef cattle, the great Middle West is the natural center of this industry. Some of these cattle are raised on the ranches. The ranch States are Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas. It was in this region years ago that the immense herds of bison found their pastures. But the ranch system of raising cattle for the shambles is rapidly changing, giving way to the meadow and the stall of the farm. The States of the corn-belt are coming to the front in raising beef cattle. Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio are the chief sources of supply. Corn-fed cattle are greatly preferable to cattle on the open range.

Another change for the better is in the superior breed of cattle now raised for beef. The days of the wild-eyed, long-horned Texas steers are numbered. The Devons are found to be far superior for beef. The Herefords—with their white faces and feet—are extensively raised. The Durhams—or Shorthorns—are in the van, and are likely to remain there, as they excel as beef cattle, and reach their maturity sooner.

The great stockyards and packing-houses are in the West. The three chief centers of the dressed-beef industry are Chicago, Kansas City, Kansas and South Omaha, Nebraska.

The Chicago stockyards are still the largest, though the others are beginning to crowd Chicago for first place. The prophecy is frequently made that in a few years the head-center of the dressed-beef industry will be on the Missouri.

In 1900, the Chicago stockyards received about 2,750,000 cattle. An average busy day's receipts will be twenty-five thousand cattle. These would make about eighteen million pounds, or nine thousand tons, of dressed beef. At five centres in the West, 185,000 head of cattle had been received in one week.

The names of the large beef-packers are famous wherever meat is used—Armour, Swift, Hammond, Morris, Cudahy, Schwarzchild and Sulzberger.

In the long railroad journey to the stockyards, every provision is made by law for feeding and watering the cattle. When slaughtered, no part of the animal is wasted. Besides the meat there are numerous by-products. The horns are made into knife-handles, combs, etc. The bones are made into tooth-picks and buttons, or ground for fertilizers. The albumen from the blood is used for finishing leather. From the fat oleomargarine and butterine are made. The hides are made into leather. The hair is used for mattresses and for mixing in mortar.

Much of the beef finds its way to the markets as fresh meat. It is sent in refrigerator cars, usually one hundred quarters of beef in each car. Besides this, considerable quantities are canned. The tongues are canned. Hamburger steak is cut up in neat little boxes. Beef extract is also made in ever-increasing quantities.

While much of the beef product is required for home consumption, the United States sends a large proportion of its products to western Europe. England and Germany are our best foreign customers. It is still customary to send across the Atlantic live beef cattle. In a recent year we sent no less than four hundred thousand "on the hoof," as it is called.

But more and more the shippers are sending fresh beef in monster refrigerator steamers. As many as sixty-five carloads of dressed beef, twenty-five cattle to the carload, will be stowed away in the refrigerator rooms of a great Atlantic liner. That would represent 1825 cattle, and that is more than any of the old exclusively cattle ships could carry in live cattle.

We sent abroad in a recent year three hundred million pounds of fresh beef in refrigerator steamers. Two-thirds of all the live cattle or fresh beef we ship to Europe goes from the ports of New York and Boston. While the largest movement of Western cattle and beef is towards the East, a minor movement is from the Rocky Mountain States towards the States on the Pacific slope. As California, Oregon and Washington increase their population, they open up an excellent market for cattle from the sunrise side of the Rockies. So the cattle-men of the Trans-Mississippi region are being able to ship their beef cattle both East and West. The most formidable rival the United States has in its dressed-beef industry is Argentina. Cattle thrive as well there as they do in our Western States, and the breeds are just as good. While the sea journey from Buenos Ayres to Liverpool is longer than from New York or Boston, the land journey from the pampas of Argentina to Buenos Ayres is much shorter than from Kansas to the Atlantic seaboard. Taking the entire trip into account, it is about as short from Argentina as from our Middle West. This makes her one of our strongest rivals.—Beef Cattle.

### In the Milky Way.

They are making considerable fun over an announcement made in Baltimore from a number of milk depots, run by some benevolent people who through their official say: "It is the wish of the trustees to reach the deserving babies with this (modified) milk entirely through the physicians and dispensaries of the city." The question started by this proclamation is "What is an underserving baby?" And "Charities" intimates that, like Mrs. Harris, "there is no such person."

The Baltimore people probably meant to allude to babies whose parents, though in indigent circumstances, are perfectly reputable; but, after all, the other poor infants are not to blame for the shortcomings of bad fathers and mothers, and it seems a little hard to deprive the little ones of modified milk on account of the sins of their unfortunate parents. The New York Mail takes a humorous view of the situation, when it suggests that the underserving babies are the kind of children who not only consume the worst kind of cow's milk, but who also cram into their young maws nickels, pennies, buttons and other indigestible things, thriving on this kind of regimen quite as well as they would under more careful dieting. It would be, evidently, a waste of good material to give them modified milk, since they would not appreciate such delicate treatment. Like the ostrich, they grow fat on metallic food. Their stomachs, evidently, need to exercise their resisting powers, and appendicitis does not come within the scope of their infantile diseases.

The deserving babies, however, are to our way of thinking, those who have delicate organizations, and who, like Columbus, came of poor, but honest parents, though they were not born in Genoa.

But, seriously, the desire of the philanthropic Baltimoreans to have the modified milk go where it will do the most good is to be commended, in spite of inaccurate phraseology, and even if a baby makes his father walk the floor all night with him he is not wholly undeserving, though unsympathetic neighbors may think that he deserves a spanking.

A tract of ten acres has been set apart on a Maine experiment farm in order to test the capacity of an area of that size for supporting live stock. High manuring, quick rotations, catch crops and thorough cultivation may be expected to assist in a modern illustration of "Ten acres enough." Even at a cow per acre, which is the rate of hay and fodder production for the tillage area of the whole farm the little tract would show its capacity to afford a modest farm livelihood. But special care should make a far better showing for the ten acres.



GOLDEN ACORN 8242 A. G. C. ADV. R. NO. 29.

Official year's record, 5923.6 pounds milk, 496.55 pounds butter-fat. Owned by Mr. G. B. Tallman, Perry, N. Y. Golden Acorn is somewhat inbred among her early ancestry. She was dropped June 15, 1894. Her sire was Gold Boy, he by Preferred Boy, out of Princess Maud 2d, and he by King Richard 2d, out of Imp. Princess Maud, and he by King Richard, out of Imp. Princess Maud, and he by King Richard, out of Imp. Princess Maud. The dam of Golden Acorn was Lady Fay, who was out of Friesland's Daughter, by Don Juan of Appleton. Friesland's Daughter was sired by Ramona, he by Albarmarie 56, out of Imp. Guernsey Lily, while her dam, Friesland's Daughter, was by Ralph Jr., out of Cherry of Hillside 4th, a daughter of Cherry of Hillside, one of the early importations and owned by the late S. J. Tilden.

ing a coating of tar without previous charring, the tar would only form a casing about the wood, and would not penetrate to the depth which the absorbing properties of the charcoaled surface would ensure. Wood that is exposed to the action of water or let into the ground should first be charred, and then, before it has entirely cooled, be treated with tar till the wood is thoroughly impregnated. The acetate acid and oils contained in the tar are evaporated by the heat, and only the resin is left behind. This penetrates the pores of the wood and forms an airtight and waterproof envelope. It is important to impregnate the wood a little above the line of exposure, for here it is that the action of decay affects the wood first, and where the break always occurs when removed from the earth or strained in testing. Wood exposed to the air should not be dressed with coal tar, but pine tar. The former will rot the fibres when exposed to the sun and air.

### Among the Farmers.

Immigration might solve the farm-labor problem if the immigrants were of any use.—E. Lee, Franklin County, Mass.

There is absolutely no doubt but what alfalfa will grow successfully in New England.—E. A. Rogers, Brunswick, Me.

The men who formerly worked for the month are now working for themselves, either as tenants or as owners. I have had three different men working for me who now have farms of their own. Unless immigrants come in I do not see where the supply of farm laborers is going to come from.—W. J. C., Essex County, N. Y.

I had some experience with the cabbage aphid and found that lime or dust would kill it. But they would be three or four deep, and there would be enough left to continue the work. And instead of spraying I use the jet. If you will spray your cabbage with a syringe instead of a mist you will get rid of the aphids that you can reach. You can get rid of many in the cabbage by holding your nozzle close to them and using a jet instead of a spray.—L. B. Pierce.

A Lancaster County farmer a year or two ago was feeding a bunch of good cattle. Buyers were trying to get them at the market price, which was then low. He one hour the tender is at work and lights it all up to sun and air. In that way there will be no green bunches, but all will be cured evenly together. At one in the afternoon the tender shakes it up again. At half-past two it is raked and placed in medium-sized coals. If the weather looks unpromising, it is placed in larger coals and caps placed on top. No one that has not tried hay caps would be willing to believe they save the hay so much from getting wet, either in a heavy shower or several days' rain. As I said before, having my hay to sell, I cannot do without them. I have them on a wheelbarrow, and can distribute them very quickly. The advantage of caps in a season like the present, can hardly be estimated. The weather being favorable, the next day at



**WALNUT COMPANY,**  
Box 3954, Boston, Mass.



## Poultry.

## The Popular Buff Dotted.

All Buff varieties are in high favor just now, and the demand is growing all the time. The Buff Wyandottes have met with particular favor as they have all the good qualities of the Wyandotte family. They are quick, alert, and market fowls, are good layers, good, but not persistent sitters and careful mothers. Those who breed good Buff Wyandottes find a ready sale for them at high prices.

Buff Wyandottes now come quite true to color, and their warm golden buff color sets off their plump bodies in such a way as to make a flock of this variety very attractive. The variety is well bred long enough to know that it is worthy a place among the best.

Wyandottes mature early and make broilers younger than any other variety. As they are always in demand, and as they fowls they go in the market as "Essex Fowls," the highest priced classification in the best markets. They are so square bodied and plump looking that they are always chosen by the most particular buyers.

It goes without saying that Wyandottes are the best layers among the large breeds, and as winter layers excel all other breeds. The Maine Experiment Station is using them in perfecting a two-hundred egg strain of fowls, and now has thirty of this variety with a record of from two hundred to 250 eggs in one year, a record that has never been equaled by any other breed or variety. Toga County, Pa. W. B. SULLIVAN.

## Eggs a Cash Product.

A special advantage of a flock of hens on the farm is that the skim milk and other by-products may be turned into cash at a good price, bringing more money with less trouble than by any other plan. We keep Rhode Island Reds, which are hardy, good layers, and good for market poultry. Our flock numbers about 150, and is allowed the range of the orchard. We feed them warm skim milk from the separator every day, taking care to keep the dishes clean. Soft feed is given the year round composed of six quarts of bran, two quarts of corn meal, one pint of linseed oil meal, and one pint of meal. The ground grain is mixed with warm milk from the separator and fed as a stiff dough. At night we feed oats in summer and corn in winter. Also wheat mixed with chaff, which is kept six inches deep on the feeding floor. Half a bushel of beets and two or three cabbages are given daily. We plan to renew the stock every year, but sometimes keep hens the second year. The chicks are all hatched by hens, about twenty chicks being given to each hen. The hens are shut up, but the chickens are allowed to range.

## Summer Care of Turkeys.

I always get to them very early in the morning with some food. This serves to keep them from rambling as they otherwise would, but after the dew disappears and the weather warms up a little they should be taken for a supply of water, and it should be kept near them in such a way that they cannot get into it and get wet. I use a little automatic fountain made of galvanized iron. After they are given their liberty be sure to see that the supply of water never runs short. It will aid you in getting them home at night, and right alongside of the water be sure to have plenty of good, fine sharp grit and a dish of charcoal. Be sure that these articles never run short, for the turkeys will not be healthy without them.

After they are from six to eight weeks old they are ready to take to some kind of a perch. They will generally do this in their own way, and after they get so they take to their perch nightly they are all driven to what I call the "turkey tree." I like to have them all together at night, for it is so much easier to protect them from their nocturnal enemies.

One disease that causes a great deal of loss in turkey raising is called black head; some call it cholera. It usually affects young turkeys from ten to twelve weeks old. It is an infection of the liver, and is usually inherited from the parent stock, and is caused largely by close inbreeding. All dead birds should be burned or buried deeply. Birds having this disease will never be free from it, but will transmit it to their young. Wet, stormy weather always aggravates it.

I am fully aware that there is a deep-rooted prejudice against raising turkeys, many claiming that they are very destructive to growing crops. My experience has shown that they are the least destructive of all farm poultry. Take, for instance, a flock of about one hundred or more turkeys foraging a field of any kind of grain or grass, and I defy any one to follow them and show any harm they have done. We all have to acknowledge that they have done much good toward ridding the field of grasshoppers and many other insect pests.

## Improved Demand for Poultry.

Reported for this paper by S. L. Burr & Co.: "The poultry market at the present time is in far better condition than what it was a week ago. The receipts have been extremely light and indications point to their continuing in that way for some days to come. We presume the local demand from summer resorts throughout New England has a tendency to cut off the New England supply largely, and we think the demand has been somewhat increased on account of the present condition of the meat market generally, and a great many use poultry instead of beef and mutton.

"We are selling at 15 to 16 cents, fancy 25 to 30 cents, fancy roasting chickens from 30 to 35 cents, other kinds of poultry are practically unchanged from what they were last week. We look for a strong, healthy market for some days to come."

"New York supplies of fresh-killed poultry have been quite moderate, invoices generally light and market in strong position on Western and Eastern markets, especially the former, with a goodly quota for average fowls and selected fowls higher. Broilers are firm, with exceptional large and heavy fowls commanding high prices. Old roosters scarce and firm. Newly broilers, spruce ducks and squabs none changed in absence of fresh receipts. Fresh-killed turkeys in good demand and firm."

## Eggs in Steady Demand.

The great strike helped consumers to improve the market for eggs. Some having made up their minds that fresh food would be scarce and high took to fish, eggs and vegetables, all of which are reasonably cheap and abundant at this time. The result was a falling off in the egg trade, to the advantage of poultrymen. Fresh eggs of the various grades quoted about one cent higher this week. Western and Southern stock being under suspicion on account of the weather failed to share much in the advance. Present quotations are well sustained and quite likely the improvement will hold and continue, as the season is approaching when the egg yield naturally begins to lessen somewhat with the beginning of the hens' vacation season and early hatching. Some of the eggs from the Lake region arrive in extremely good order, but none can equal

the nearby lots in solidity and uniform reliability.

Eggs were advanced a fraction in New York markets last week on account of the meat strike, somewhat lighter receipts being also a factor in the rise. Eggs from near-by points are especially desired at this season since most of those arriving at a distance show had effects of hot weather. The advance in price brought a few eggs out of cold storage and gave the holders a chance to realize a small profit. If the meat strike should continue long, no doubt a great many cold storage eggs would be put on the market as they will grade practically as fresh eggs at this time of the year. The advance in the price of meat has certainly led to a larger consumption of eggs, and the demand is extremely large for the season of the year. The heavy receipts this week indicates that a holding back policy on the part of shippers was responsible partly for the light run of stock last week and the week previous. The market is now much better supplied. The price of meat is now much better, trade is less active and the tone is easier, though prices have very little change as yet. Strictly fancy goods are rated about steady, but average best lots are more easily obtained than heretofore, and in some instances are moving easier prices. The lower grades are slightly slower and show rather a weak tone. Strictly choice candied dirties are meeting a fair demand at 15 to 15 1/2 cents, but some holders, who are asking more money, report no business.

## Horticultural.

## Profits of Orange Culture.

California orange groves in full bearing appear to be very good investments. A crop of five acres recently sold for \$500 on the trees. Exceptionally good orchards have brought \$1800 per acre. A common estimate for an orchard of ten acres is an annual average profit of \$1200 to \$2000 net, thus securing a very good living for a lucky owner. The tree is more uniform in its bearing habits than Northern fruits, there being no off years. The Washington Navel is a great commercial variety.

Orange land costs at the start in California from \$30 to \$150 per acre. Bearing groves, including water rights, have sold as high as \$125 per acre, but usual prices are considerably below this figure. The capital invested in California orange groves is placed at \$50,000,000. Shipments in 1898 were less than one million boxes, but in 1903 shipments had increased to eleven and one-half million boxes.

## Apple News.

Storage men are feeling rather uncertain about the prospects of the coming year. But few of them made any money by storing apples last year, the price at the outset being too high for profit during the greater part of the season. It is thought that the beginning of the export season will be quite active, the export business last year being very profitable, especially for the early shipments. Some growers expect to have a large surplus of second-grade apples, and are beginning to look for contracts with evaporators and cider-makers. We note one contract in New York State, a large stock of dried apples of five cents a pound, choice grade, and one for evaporating at 15 cents a bushel without sorting.

Complaints are quite numerous from all parts of the Northern apple-growing section for the continued bad effects of the severe freezing last winter. Trees and foliage and fruit have died and dying limbs and a general lack of vitality. Most frequent complaints are of injury to apple orchards because such trees are most extensively grown, but the damage seems to be fully as serious in plantings of pears and quinces. Some large vine trees in most land have died outright, others have required very heavy pruning to remove dead limbs.

The New York State fruit crop is estimated by the Fruitman's Guide at fifty per cent. for Oswego County, sixty per cent. for Albany County, seventy per cent. for St. Lawrence County, thirty-five to fifty per cent. for Ontario County. The peach and pear crops throughout the State are rated as moderate, the crop of pears in several counties not being over fifty per cent. of a full year's. The reports for Pennsylvania are stated as irregular, averaging a medium to fair crop, ranging from half a crop to a full crop. Cumberland County to nearly a full yield in Columbia and Schuylkill Counties. The Virginia crop is reported disappointing and less than for several years past. Many large orchardists of the State report not more than half a crop expected.

## Fruit in Moderate Supply.

Apples are improving with the advent of the Jersey crop, but there is still much room for improvement in quality. Southern growers seem unable to produce any really good apples. Peaches from Georgia are plenty, but those of good grade bring fair prices. Some very nice Southern plums are selling at a high range. Pears are limited in supply and demand.

Strawberries are practically limited to a few good ones from Nova Scotia. Blueberries are in plenty and higher. Raspberries are plenty and good. Raspberries are in light supply and rule at steady prices, likewise currants and cherries.

At New York the supply of apples is liberal, but offerings generally small in size and of uncertain value; choice and picked fruit is in size and color would command more than quoted. LeConte pears have been running down in quality, and while a few fancy reach \$4.50 and higher, most sales are in range of \$2 to \$4. Plums are dragging unless fancy. Peaches are in heavy supply and weak; South Georgia fruit is pretty well marketed, and stock from Northern sections has hardly commenced; some Maryland and Delaware peaches are arriving, but are of uncertain value. Cherries are in light receipt and quotations somewhat nominal. Currants sell well when choice, with scattering sales above quotations, but some show poor quality and range low. Huckleberries are gradually cleaning up, and market rules slightly firmer, with scattering sales above quotations. Gooseberries are in light supply and steady. Muskmelons are in excessive supply, largely poor and of irregular value; the Arizona melons are generally too ripe. Watermelons are selling fairly at about former prices.

## Grain Conditions Improving.

The wheat market has been treated to an alternative of good news with bad, producing a somewhat unsettled effect. The monthly Government report, suggesting a total crop of 664,000,000 bushels, was followed by the weekly bulletin from Washington, denoting severe damage through the Southwest. Such a conservative authority as the Price Current fears that damage at perhaps twenty-five million bushels, while Secretary Coburn of Kansas predicts the damage in that State at forty to fifty per cent. Jones, of the Commercial West, thinks 500,000,000 bushels will cover this year's crop. If, as reported, the European crop is from one hundred million to two hundred million bushels short, the prospect becomes a satisfactory one from the seller's standpoint and rather threatening to the buyer, in view of the exceptionally small domestic reserves on July 1, which means an active home competition for the new wheat.

The recent war, sunny weather has helped corn everywhere, conditions which were needed to correct its backward state. A good July and August, and a long autumn before frost, will be necessary to insure a good crop. Corn meal is a little lower. Oats went a shade higher because of reports of rust on the present crop. There was a decrease in the Minneapolis flour output last week of 84,780 barrels. The quantity made, week of July 10, was 235,845 barrels, against 209,710 barrels in 1903 and 281,338 barrels in 1902. This

TYPICAL BUFF WYANDOTTE MALE. Owned by West Mountain Poultry Yards.

week the production is likely to be about the same. Trade has perhaps been a little better the last week than the week before, and mills in some cases have sold more than their output, but this does not say much, as the output was so much curtailed, says the Northwestern Miller. The difference between the price of cash wheat and September wheat, about 12 cents per bushel, still serves as a siren fog-horn, warning buyers not to risk the destruction of their commercial crop by stocking up at prices that may be high before the flour goes into consumption. The difference between the price of cash wheat and September wheat is easily equal to cover 40 cents per barrel.

Flour is firm, but the market is very quiet, as buyers are not disposed to take hold until the crop damage reports are confirmed.

## Fair General Outlook for Cranberries.

A Chicago expert in summing up the prospects of the cranberry crop expects a fair average yield taking into account, however, the losses from frost and hail storms on the Cape. Allowance that perhaps one thousand acres were thus damaged, the shortage from this cause was placed at sixty thousand barrels. The crop of Cape Cod in 1903 was 283,000 barrels, in 1902 it was 215,000 barrels, and in 1903 a little over two hundred thousand barrels. The acreage having somewhat decreased for the present year and the general conditions aside from the frost and storm being favorable, the crop apart from the damage would probably have reached 325,000 barrels, or about 25,000 barrels allowing for the damage mentioned. This estimate would place the yield from fifty thousand barrels above any previous crop. The New Jersey crop is placed at 125,000 barrels against 175,000 last year, while Wisconsin is credited with fifty thousand barrels against forty-two thousand barrels last year. These estimates are quite probably excessive for the New England crop under prevailing conditions. But the season is not far enough advanced for any very reliable estimates to be made at present.

## Government Crop Report.

Corn has experienced a week of exceptionally favorable weather conditions and has made rapid growth generally in all districts. Very few unfavorable reports respecting this crop are received. In the Missouri valley and in portions of the Upper Ohio valley and Middle Atlantic States corn has, however, suffered somewhat from lack of cultivation, and in Texas the late plantings being injured by drought.

Better weather for harvesting winter wheat prevailed than in the preceding week, and this work has made generally satisfactory progress. Comparatively few reports of sprouting in shock and of damage by mold are received this week. As a whole, both early and late spring wheat have advanced satisfactorily. Reports of injury to oats by rust continue from the lower Missouri Valley, but elsewhere the crop has advanced favorably.

Cotton has continued to make rapid growth throughout the cotton belt, with the exception of Texas, where although well cultivated and fruiting nicely, its advancement has been checked by dry weather. As a whole, the tobacco crop continues in promising condition. While better having weather has prevailed than in the preceding week, reports of injury from rains continue from portions of the Ohio valley and Middle Atlantic States. A good crop of hay is generally indicated.

## The Saunterer.

The intelligent school committee man was heard at a recent meeting, where there was a debate on expenses for another year. He said:

"Mr. Chairman, I see there is on this list a proposed appropriation of thirty-six dollars and fifty cents for an apparatus. What is this apparatus, anyhow? We didn't have no such book when I went to school, and I consider such an expense extravagant. We must keep down the expenses, for economy is wealth. Apparatus, indeed. Ain't the dictionary big enough. It's got all in it that any other book has. I shall vote again the 'apparition'."

When he was told what the apparatus really was, he said:

"I knew it was some darned thing that was no good to nobody."

A woman who sat beside me at Keith's the other night kept exclaiming, "Oh! Oh!" while some acrobatic performances were going on. She had great pity for the skilful gymnasts, who were in no danger, but when she went out and trod on my pet corn, and I shouted "Oh!" she looked daggers in my direction. She had no mercy for me, and I finally hoped that sometime I might see her swinging on a giant trapeze.

The milkman is happier than the rest of humanity during the good old summer time. He gets the cream of existence, for his work is all over in the cool of the morning, and he does not have to rush into a hot restaurant to snatch a luncheon in the middle of the day. About that time he is sleeping peacefully in his cart on some shady, quiet country road. How would you like to be the milkman?

A philosophical tramp came to my back door the other day, and when I asked him what he was, he said he was a lily, though he looked like a pretty dirty one.

"Well," I said as I closed the door, "I am neither your heavenly nor your earthly father, and I cannot take care of you."

"There is no graft here," he said, as he walked down the yard.

Those who are used to a solid meal of two or three dishes cannot appreciate the variety of a course dinner, and when they attend a formal repast arise from the table much hungrier than when they sat down. An illustration of this was furnished me recently by a young friend from the country—a boy of about fourteen—who came to town to enjoy the Fourth-of-July celebration. I took him to a banquet at a fashionable hotel, thinking he would enjoy luxuries to which he was unaccustomed at home,

but I came to a wrong conclusion, for he did not value the dainty viands set forth on the menu, and was entirely puzzled by his bad French. Last week his mother sent me a letter which he had written to her concerning the festivities, and it ran as follows:

"Dear Ma:

I went to a thing that they call a banquet yesterday, and to start out with I was given a rose-bud to stick in my button-hole. I imagined that I was so marked because I was the flower of the flock at home, but when I saw the other fellows similarly decorated I came to the conclusion that I was not the only pebble on the beach. Well, first I had a half a plate full of soup, and it was snatched away by a colored man almost before I had time to taste it. Then he brought me a little bit of fish and a new potato, which he called a pomme de terre, for short, and while I was turning the stuff over with a fork, it vanished with a 'Thank you, your honor, sah,' and a negro bow, the magnificence of which made me feel like two cents. That was the way it was all through—little morsels of this and that, that came and went like a series of biograph views after I had got a mouthful. The only things that I really enjoyed were the ice-cream and cake, and there was not enough of them. Now, if I was giving a banquet it would be pretty nearly all ice-cream. Finally the elegant oon gentleman brought me a hard croaker and a piece of the smallestest cheese that my nose ever encountered, and a thimbleful of black coffee. I was glad to get the latter, for it helped to destroy the odor of the cheese, which must have been in the air with Noah. Gosh! I'll be glad when I get up to the farm again and can draw up to a New England boiled dinner. This morning in fashionable society is not what it is cracked up to be. I'd rather go to a church social, even if the oysters in the stew are few and far between; you can always have plenty of doughnuts there, anyway.

Yours affectionately,

Reuben."

So it seems my young rustic does not bank on a banquet. It's too rich for his blood.

A special report of the Census Bureau on occupations shows that in continued United States the total number of persons engaged in gainful occupations in 1900 was 29,732,233, which was half of the population ten years of age and over, and nearly two-fifths of the entire population. The total number comprises 22,439,425 men, 4,833,009 women and 1,760,178 children, of which 1,294,141 were boys and 465,767 girls.

The United States Geological Survey sends out the following preliminary statement of the value of the production of the following minerals in the calendar year, 1903: Pig iron, \$344,300,000; iron ores, \$66,350,000; salt, \$5,150,195; phosphate rock, \$2,984,000; copper, \$1,000,000; bituminous coal, \$331,084,209; anthracite coal, \$152,036,448.

The foreign commerce of the United States in the fiscal year 1904 is the largest in its history; the exports of manufactures are larger than in any preceding year, and the exports of domestic products exceed those of any other country. In manufactures the exports of the year will make their highest record. While the figures of manufactures exported for the full fiscal year 1904 have not yet been completed by the Bureau of Statistics, the fact that the eleven months' figures already completed exceed by \$17,000,000 those of the corresponding period of the record year, 1903, makes it apparent that the total exports of manufactures in 1904 will be greater than those of any preceding year. It is also apparent that the exports of domestic products from the United States in the fiscal year just ended will exceed those of any other country. The United Kingdom is, next to the United States, the world's largest exporter of domestic products, and until within recent years surpassed the United States in its total. During recent years, however, the United States has rapidly gained upon and finally overtaken the United Kingdom in the race for supremacy as an exporter of domestic products.

One of the most unattractive mining districts known to the prospector is the Kottzebus placer gold field of Seward Peninsula, Alaska. Low, tundra-covered hills, natural breeding places for mosquitoes and black flies, surround him there on every side. Traveling, difficult on higher ground in that region, is almost impossible in the low-lying bordering the sound, and is not much better along the streams. Until recently the only fuel was that afforded by the low willows scattered along the bottoms of the valleys. The summers are damp and the winters are severely cold. To offset these disadvantages it may be stated that the gold production of the Kottzebus field from its discovery in 1901 to the present is estimated to be not far from \$415,000.

Commissioner Gilman of the Maine Agricultural Department is making arrangements for holding the annual farmers' institutes, beginning about Aug. 15. Places and dates have not been definitely settled upon, but Washington, Hancock and Aroostook will be the counties first favored. Three institutes will be held in Washington County, two in Hancock and three in Aroostook in late August. A widespread interest in it is manifested by the farmers of the above-named sections of the State, and extremely profitable sessions are anticipated.

Sheep shearing is virtually completed throughout Montana, and from the best figures obtainable the season's yield will be about 40,000,000 pounds, an increase of nearly ten per cent. over last year. The process obtained show a substantial increase over last year.

A South African syndicate has placed an order with James Mafelo, El Paso, Tex., for the purchase of 100,000 head of sheep, two thousand mules, two thousand burros and one thousand broodmares. These animals will be purchased in West Texas and New Mexico, and shipped to South Africa. The contract calls for the shipments to be made within the next twelve months.

Exports of fruit from the United States in the fiscal year 1904 will exceed \$30,000,000, against less than \$20,000,000 in 1903 and less than \$2,000,000 in 1902. The growth in the exportation of fruits from the United States has been very rapid during the last few years. The Department of Commerce and Labor, through its Bureau of Statistics, has issued a table showing the value of fruits and nuts imported and exported in 1903.

Year from 1894 to 1904. It shows that the importation of fruits was practically \$30,000,000 in value in 1904, and in 1903 was about \$22,000,000, while the exports which were \$1,745,418 in 1904 will be about \$30,000,000 in 1905. Apples, oranges, apricots, prunes and raisins form the principal items in the exports of fruits. The value of the apple exportations in 1904 will amount to about \$5,000,000 out of the \$30,000,000 worth of fruits exported, and of the \$5,000,000 worth of apples exported, about \$5,000,000 worth was exported in the natural state and \$3,000,000 worth as dried fruit.

Director W. H. Jordan of the New York Experiment Station at Geneva has issued his annual report for the year 1903. This is one of the two stations of that State. The Geneva people receive an annual income of \$60,000, divided into fifty thousand dollars for maintenance, eight thousand dollars for outside horticultural investigation, ten thousand dollars for enforcing provisions of the fertilizer law, and fifteen hundred from the United States Government. The balance of this sum comes from the State, being appropriated by the legislature. During the year 36,394 copies of bulletins have been mailed to residents of the State.

Russia's action in searching and seizing vessels in the Red Sea has started a discussion that for the moment overshadows the news from the theatre of operations in the Far East. If London dispatches are to be credited, England is preparing to back whatever decision she reaches in regard to the legality of Russia's actions by force of arms. It is not to be believed, however, that the British government will precipitate a crisis at this time by making any effort to enforce her interpretation of the international law bearing on the case. Indeed, so far as is known, Russia has violated no accepted canon of international law. Russia, in his "Law of War," makes no mention of "mail," the confiscation of which at the present moment seems to be the chief issue, although the British press is trying to prove that the vessels of Russia's volunteer fleet are filibuster's. The argument is that having gone through the Dardanelles as merchantmen, they were eschewed from becoming warships.

Boston is supplying Chicago with dressed beef. New England and nearby cattle are being slaughtered at the Brighton and other local abattoirs, and carload after carload of the dressed beef is being shipped direct to the Winny City, where there are plenty of cattle, but few to slaughter them. Instead of a meat famine in Boston, so persistently predicted, there is more meat here than can be sold locally, and so the Hub has turned the tables on the city of great yards and is sending Chicago people a supply of meat for their tables.

In an interview with Postmaster General Payne, Frank G. Carpenter asked him if the rural free delivery was, in his estimation, a success. The reply was: "Yes, indeed. Few people know how great a success it is. We have now more than twenty-three thousand rural delivery routes, giving a daily mail delivery to 2,300,000 families, or to more than eleven million persons. Estimating our population at seventy-seven million, we are now serving nearly seven of the eight people in the United States through the rural delivery."

Discussion of Old Home Week plans for the small towns in western Massachusetts has brought out the interesting proposal of a series of bonfires on the night of Saturday, July 30, to be lighted upon adjacent hilltops so as to make a continuous chain from the Connecticut river west. It is thought possible, indeed, that arrangements might be made to extend the chain the entire length of the State, but the western section offers a topography especially well adapted to such purposes. Mt. Tom, Mt. Holyoke and old Greylock would serve as central points from which large bonfires would be visible for many miles, and on the lower peaks and ridges, so abundant throughout this part of the State, fire could be lighted for miles around, and in addition to the Old Home Week observances of the country towns.

As a result of the meat strike about one hundred thousand men have been out of work in the nine leading cities concerned.

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The salt of commerce is obtained in three ways:—by evaporating the water of the ocean in inland salt lakes; by evaporating the water which bubbles up naturally in salt springs, or which is brought to the surface boiling deep to the earth; and by mining the solid mineral rock-salt.

At one time much salt was obtained from water. To this day, sea-water is still evaporated in China, Spain, Italy and the northern part of France. By far the greater part of the salt of commerce is obtained from brine-springs, natural or bored.

A powerful engine pump out the brine into

kes it pass the palate more easily, but enter the stomach as they originally are—the sugar as sugar, the vinegar as vinegar. There is no combination or neutralization of either. The perfectly natural taste refuses all very hot, bitter, sour or foods. But to meet our artificial cravings we overlook this fact and cover or disguise our likings that they may pass unnoted. We cannot, however, deceive the palate, and consequently we pay a heavy ally.

Seasoned or scented vinegars are made by adding onion, tarragon, bay leaf and

the abdominal muscles, a neglected ally to the detriment of the general health.

It is easy to find out where the lazy, flabby muscles are. They are like troglodytes in their disposition. If one does insist upon their working they will lie up and rest forever. But start them up on any unworked form of exercise, and they are as fit as a fiddle. What a grumbling and aching and limping round! There is nothing in it but to send the blood after them constantly as an overseer, and to keep them at it. When this is done the grumbling and

ted this year it is the coolest thing possible, and on the whole, as every one will agree, pretest for summer. A charming white gown was made with a gored skirt tucked fullness about the hips. Heading the founce Valenciennes insertion, lined a large collar, and the founce tucked instead of the tucks running up into the hollows of the scallops. A group of smaller crosswise tucks headed the founce. The collar was made of two of the muil and insertion, and below was plain shallow yoke of the muil. A band of inon was carried across under the yoke in large scallops, one dipping down directly under the collar and the other two extending over the

For this present life, too, is the actual world in just the degree that man is in the spirit, for man is here and now, inhabitant of both worlds. It rests with himself to live "As seeing Him who is invisible." This more pure and exalted life is perfectly practicable, day by day, in all stress of common life. If it could only be lived in the cloister and not in the marketplace, it would hardly be worth discussing. But the life of the spirit, that life which is joy, peace, and sweetness; that life which is the life of the heart, the life of liberal sympathies, of finer comprehension, of a more intimate knowledge of God is that in which a higher potency and

of good quality, in calf to one of the great  
Scottish sires of the period, and a few

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**Shropshire Rams and Ewes**

of greatest individual merit and  
breeding for sale as usual.

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## Poetry.

## ODE TO A FLY.

You harp of everything tormenting,  
You horrid little aggravating fly,  
Why I looked forward gladly to the summer  
Forgot that you, provoking creature, would  
be by.

I used about the coming of the flowers,  
And tried to feel poetic 'bout the Spring;  
And here you are with all your teasing powers,  
And all my fancies into air take wing.

Today I tried to sleep at early morn,  
And you and all your brothers sun repose,  
And while I chased "your sisters and your  
sons,"  
You, loudly buzzing, sat upon my nose!

Today I lay upon the table sweets  
You lightly sip, your "weather eye" on me,  
And with a cruel malice all your own,  
You knock your youngest son into my tea.

Try to lie still as any mouse,  
You, gliding in your power of torture rare,  
You loudly sing your scorn of helpless man,  
And take a walk with friends amid my hair.

You walk with flying at you round the room,  
And, now! once more you're standing on my  
nose.

Just for one blow! Ah! there you're off again,  
And half your haemoglobin nibbling at my toes!

There is no way to catch you that I know,  
And I to a theme to make even angels weep,  
And I in all my pride of strength and power,  
Can't smother you and get a little sleep!

—New York Sun.

## BROTHERHOOD.

Mark well this fact—not often urged, indeed—  
That one's own business, if he mind it best,  
Concerns the common welfare, taken due heed  
How self, the unit, stands toward all the rest.

A lean and narrow virtue must it be,  
Content with "middle not" to go one's way  
A skulker, hemmed with selfish privacy,  
Who lets one's brother suffer as he may.

To mind one's business, rather, as God minds—  
That's the true way, the Christian way, God's  
son  
Full room within the common pathway finds  
To walk his way, and yet walk not alone.

—James Buckham.

## MARRIAGE.

Mari's a good girl; she is somewhat emphatic  
at times, but I imagine that in the springtime of  
her youth a philosophic pebble may have rolled  
across her pathway, and in studying it she may  
have realized that "all the world's a stage,"  
Science and evolution were not studies or  
theories, in the "little red school-house" which  
was her winter habitat, and yet, behind that  
twisted eye and under those ultra-radical  
filamentous ringlets, I believe there is concealed a  
quantity of gray matter susceptible of many and  
varied impressions—which occasionally develop  
instantaneously and carry with them food for  
thought—and action, and then it is that Setback  
has "business to the barn," and I, well—Setback  
is a good thing—

"O deep is silence, deep as human souls  
Aye, deep as life, beyond all lead or line.  
And words are but the broken shells that shine  
Along the shore by which the ocean rolls,"

And I wink at Mari's addition to humanity's  
total, while the poet rascal looks wise enough  
to play "Setback" even now.

Goin' ter name him, some day—tell yer all  
er 'bout it.

Say! Mari's got er baby  
An' the Doc's pressed on his bill—  
I'm sort er mixed up er hazy  
An' Setback he's makin' his will.

The nuss weighs er couple hundred'd  
An' she smells er New England rum  
The ties er home's 'bout sund'er'd  
An' everything's out er plum.

An' Setback he's took ter drinkin'—  
Got it hid 'n the hay somewhere,  
An' the nuss when exercisin'  
Gits agoster agoster er 'bout there;

Setback's sort er solid with Setback—  
He's beginnin' to call her May,  
There's trouble brewin' from wayback—  
But Mari'll show er some day!

An' then—Mari's got er guessin'  
There'll be music "er beat the band"  
For when she's investigatin'  
Mari's plan to understand.

I guess it's hereditary  
For Setback seems inclined that way—  
There's times when 't aint safe to carry  
Even the blossoms er yesterday.

An' the kid? (wad now I'm sofin'!)  
Came when the dew was on the sod—  
When the glories of the mornin'  
Make men their faces turn to God.

Whether he's Setback or Hugobin  
Don't make any difference with me—  
In plain or in costly riggin',  
It's a blessing—he's sure to be.

That kid makes me laugh all over—  
He's redder'n a Dombey junior  
An' fat as an upland plover;  
Don't seem to regard his senior

As 'mountin' to anything much—  
Guess he's sort er contemplatin'  
Along lines that I cannot touch—  
Jest livin'—bless him—an' dreamin'.

—GEORGE HERBERT.

## PEACE AFTER SORROW.

"There is a peace that cometh after sorrow,"  
Of hope surrendered, not of hope fulfilled;  
A peace that looketh not upon tomorrow,  
But calmly on a tempest that is stilled.

A peace which lives not in joy's excesses,  
Nor in the happy life of love secure;  
But in the unerring strength the heart possesses  
Of conflicts won while learning to endure.

A peace there is, in sacrifice secluded;  
A life subdued, from will and passion free;  
Tis not the peace which Eden brooded,  
But that which triumphed in Gethsemane.

—JESSIE ROSE GATES.

## A MEADOW DARTING.

One day I met a little maid who roamed the  
meadows round the house, and she was very  
fair to see.

I met her heart completely when she leaned to  
kiss the clover.

As she wandered through the meadow with the  
butterfly and bee.

When apple trees were blooming, through the  
orchard she was going.

Have seen her at the pasture bars, and coming  
up the lane.

On the dusty highway, where the pink wild  
rose was growing;

And I've met her on the hillside, smiling  
brightly through the rain.

She says her name is Marguerite, this darling of  
the meadow.

With her snowy pointed ruffs and her yellow  
shining hair.

When June puts on her robe so green of shifting  
shine and shadow,

And the robins wake the countryside, you'll  
find her there.

—In Flower, in The New England Magazine.

## Miscellaneous.

## At the Church Parade.

Cyril Thornton was absolutely broke to the  
world. Not the ordinary want of a "dime,"  
but the real downright thing, for he  
had not a penny in the world.

More than that, he had no belongings which he  
could deposit with his avuncular relative for a  
valuable consideration. More than that, he had  
not even an attic to sleep in.

Neither wine nor cards brought him to this  
stage, but pure, unadulterated bad luck. A  
gentleman by birth, and with a luxurious bring-  
ing up, he had found himself suddenly thrown  
on his own resources.

It was a beautiful morning in June. London  
was filled with fashionable people, and from  
some feeling of "noblesse oblige" Cyril went to  
church parade in the Park. His shabby clothes  
did not worry him, for he had no false sense of  
pride.

He walked listlessly along, watching the fair-  
est collection of feminine beauty that the world  
holds. Cyril always had an eye for the beautiful.

The crowd was thinning away when he saw  
ahead of him an elderly man of aristocratic ap-  
pearance. By his side walked a young girl with  
brockles and a face that he had never seen.

The man signaled to a coachman, and a victoria  
pulled up near the curb.

As the girl was entering the carriage, Cyril  
saw something glitter from her wrist and fell  
into the road. He was just hurrying to pick it up  
when the carriage stopped and drove away.

He quickly stooped down and saw a magnifi-  
cent diamond bracelet, in the center of which  
was a big black pearl. With a hurried move-  
ment he thrust it into his pocket and looked  
hastily around. No one had observed the incident.

He slept in the park that night and wrestled  
with a mighty temptation. His better thoughts  
were vanquished, and the following morning he  
pawed the bracelet with a condoning paw-  
nbroker for fifty pounds.

In a few days he was back for the Cape. There  
were the early days of mines, and good luck  
followed him right through. Within three months  
he had redeemed the bracelet. His next step  
was to advertise in the agony column of the  
Times.

Will the lady who lost a diamond bracelet set  
with a black pearl in June last in the park kindly  
communicate with C. T., box X?

For many weeks he had this inserted in papers,  
but no answer came.

As the months passed Cyril's success increased  
with great strides. All his investments turned  
out well; and people began to look upon him  
as a coming man.

Then came the big boom. Mines which were  
worth comparatively little were raised to enor-  
mous prices. Cyril realized when the excitement  
was highest and returned to England a million-  
aire.

Of course, people made a fuss over him for he  
was young, good looking, immensely wealthy  
and an Englishman—strangely enough.

But Cyril was not a happy man. The bracelet  
still weighed on his conscience. It was a stain  
and did its owner that he accepted the invita-  
tions which society pressed upon him. For a  
whole season he searched for her, but without  
success. He got tired of the adoration which  
was flung at him—rather his millions; so, he,  
one day, packed up his portmanteau and went  
into the country.

His destination was a quiet little inn near  
Dartmoor, which he had known in the days of  
his youth. He was casting a fly along one of  
the streams that abound on the moors. He  
turned a corner and a sight greeted him which  
made his pulse throb madly.

Huge bowlders studded with blooming heather  
formed a background. At their foot a piece of  
green, and lying asleep with her head on a  
cushion and a red by her side, was the girl for  
whom he had been in search.

He approached slowly. She was sleeping sound-  
ly. Quickly he drew the bracelet from his  
pocket, where he always carried it. With gentle  
touch he placed it round her wrist and snatched  
it. She moved in her sleep, and he hastened  
away. He looked round, and she was again  
sleeping peacefully.

Cyril had restored the bracelet to its owner,  
but with the bracelet he had given his heart.

To make up his mind was to act.  
It did not take him long to discover that she  
was Lady Alicia Doversford, and that she lived  
with her father at Doversford Court. He was  
also pleased to hear that the earl was exceed-  
ingly poor.

Again he chanced to meet her when she was  
fishing.

She approached him at once.

"Can you lend me a 'black grout'?" she asked  
him in a sweet voice that thrilled him.

With trembling fingers he produced the fly.  
Cyril was not in the mood to make haste  
slowly. They met again, and he flattered him-  
self she was pleased to see him.

Next he wrote to the earl and asked permis-  
sion to inspect the famous pictures (they were  
heirlooms and could not be sold) at Doversford  
Castle. He came to see the pictures, and he took  
a seat at the foot of a bowlder, and was startled  
to hear two voices speaking.

One was Lady Alicia's; the other that of a  
man.

"I can never marry you, darling."

"You don't love me, Alicia."

"Heaven knows I do, Norman. But you have  
no money. You are poor as we are. It isn't  
the money I want, dear. You know that. I  
must marry money, though. The deal expects it,  
and—"

The sound of a kiss, and Cyril turned sadly  
away, stricken to the heart.

"It is £20,000," the earl said. "Some one  
placed it to my credit at the bank. No informa-  
tion will be given as to its source. It is an abso-  
lute mystery."

"God bless him, whoever it is," she whispered  
tenderly.

Among the wedding presents was a magnifi-  
cent suite of jewelry. Each article was a  
diamond, with a setting of a large black pearl,  
and the donor was Mr. Cyril Thornton, the well-  
known South African millionaire.—Illustrated  
Bits.

## Youth's Department.

## POPULAR.

My sister Bess is popular, most every where she  
goes.

They say she's awful popular with all the men  
she knows;

I hear about her pleasin' ways, an' of her cheery  
smile—

I hear that there word "popular" about her all  
the while.

At home she gets up mornin's with a grouch  
that's pretty bad;

An' she's about as hour, jest sassin' ma and  
dad;

I guess she works so hard a-bein' popular away  
That when she's in the family she don't feel very  
gay.

I often git to guessin' how th' folks 'ud like her  
if

They'd hear th' way she jaws at me when we git  
in a tiff.

An' then I'd like to hear what they 'ud say 'bout  
her back.

If they'd see her sloppin' round here in her  
dressin' sack.

She's popular, of course she is, espec'ly with the  
men.

I 'spect some time she'll marry some poor feller,  
but till then

I wist 'at she 'ud think of us a bit, an' try 'er  
A little bit more popular with ma and pa 'n me.

—Cleveland Leader.

## Stanley's Journalistic Beginning.

When the late Henry M. Stanley first arrived  
at New Orleans as a cabin-boy on sailing ship  
from Liverpool, and before he had made the ac-  
quaintance of the Stanley whose name he after-  
ward was to assume, he was forced to various  
shifts to earn a living.

Among other positions for which he applied  
was that of office boy in one of the morning

newspaper offices. His bright appearance im-  
pressed the man in charge, who engaged him  
and told him that he could begin his duties im-  
mediately, and that his hours of work would last  
to some time after midnight.

As the boy started out the man noticed that he  
was barefooted.

"Run home and get your shoes and stockings,"  
said the man.

"I haven't got any," answered the boy.

"Can't you get some?"

"Come back at six with shoes and stockings,  
and it's all right. If you don't we can't take  
you," answered the man, turning away, while  
the future explorer went out with a harder  
problem before him than finding Livingston.

He sat down on the steps outside and after some  
minutes' thought went back into the ante-room  
again and faced the boy who was in charge dur-  
ing the day, who had overheard the conversa-  
tion.

"See here," said the applicant, "have you got  
another pair of shoes and stockings?"

"No," he said.

"When do you go out duty?"

"Six o'clock."

"Same time I go on. Now I'll tell you what  
I'll do—I'll give you a list of names for the use  
of your shoes and stockings each night for a week,  
and I'll leave 'em under the desk for you every morn-  
ing when I go away so you can wear them dur-  
ing the day."

"Well," answered the boy slowly, "I'll do it if  
you'll write me an order on the cashier for the  
half."

The order was duly written, and the future  
Sir Henry put on the shoes and stockings and en-  
tered upon his first journalistic duties.—New  
York Tribune.

## Lesson Applied.

A little girl who made frequent use of the word  
"guess" was one day reproved for it by her  
teacher, who said:

"Don't say 'guess' Mary; say 'presume.'"

A few days later one of Mary's friends, coming  
up to her remarked:

"I think you're pretty, and my mother  
wants your mother to lend her the pattern, be-  
cause she is going to make me one like it."

"My mother has no pattern," was the prompt  
reply; "she cut it by presume."—Philadelphia  
Ledger.

## A Snail's Sense of Smell.

According to the researches of M. Emile Yung,  
the sense of smell in the snail seems to be located  
not only in the feeling organs, but all over the  
body, as experiment proves that the snail can  
perceive odors from a distance of several inches.

It is placed in different parts of the body, quite  
apart from the special organs which might be  
supposed to be the only means of sensation. The  
idea of sensory cells of this kind distributed over  
the body of the snail is a new discovery, and is  
clearly brought out in M. Yung's experiments.

Which form the subject of a paper read before  
the Academie des Sciences. He observes the  
large snail (Helix Pomatia), which is common in  
France. It has been generally admitted since  
the time of Moquin-Tandon, a man which the  
snail has a good sense of smell, and the organ is  
located in the terminal button at the end of the  
large feelers. Hence the term of nasal organ  
which he gives to the latter, and the expressions  
snail's nose, or snail's nose, etc., which a  
number of scientists now use for designating these  
nerves and ganglia.

The writer explored the body of the Helix with  
a camel's hair brush dipped in a non-corrosive  
solution, and he found that the sense of smell  
exists in the whole body of the snail, and that  
the snail is not localized there exclusively.

The small feelers, the under part, the skin of the  
back, and, in fact, the entire surface not covered  
by the shell, are affected by the odor. The nu-  
merous experiments which he made show that  
the snail is still in the stage of diffusion of the  
olfactory sense, and can, in fact, smell odors at  
all parts of his skin, as Cuvier already sup-  
posed. The feelers are more sensitive to odors  
than on the back, etc., but, contrary to the  
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**DAN PATCH 1:56 1/4**  
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**HOLDS FOLLOWING WORLD RECORDS:**

One Record, 1:56 1/4	One Record on Half-Mile Track, 2:45 1/2	One Record to High Wheel Sulk, 2:04 1/4
Two World Records, 2:04 1/4	One Record in Wagon, 3:45 1/2	Two-Time Winner, 4:31 1/2

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is own the World-Famous Champion Pacing Stallion, Dan Patch, and have Fine Lithographs of him. They are complete sets of his Races and Fast Miles and are Free of Charge. The large Lithograph will show Dan hitched as you see it in this engraving.

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